



U.S. Department of Justice

Terrence Berg  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Michigan

***Suite 2001  
211 West Fort Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3277***

**For Immediate Release:**

**Contact: Gina Balaya (313) 226-9758  
Sandra Berchtold (313) 237-4218**

**Dec 3, 2009**

---

**Event: Indictment**

**Defendant: Michael Hummel**

**SALINE RESIDENT CHARGED WITH STEALING TRADE SECRETS  
FROM QUICKEN LOANS, INC.**

---

A federal indictment was unsealed today charging Michael Hummel, age 35, of Saline, MI, with wire fraud and theft of trade secrets from his former employer, Quicken Loans Inc. ("Quicken"), announced United States Attorney Terrence Berg. Mr. Berg was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Andrew G. Arena, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Detroit Division.

As alleged in the indictment, from February 2005, until November 2006, Hummel was employed at Quicken as a Senior Web Developer and Sr. Software Engineer, working on the Web Interaction Team at its offices at Livonia, Michigan, or from his residence. According to the indictment Hummel allegedly stole a Quicken proprietary project. The project was a computer operating framework which supported its websites and their public interface; specifically methods, processes, programs, codes, and commands which caused webpages to load and be displayed on Quicken's websites for public use. As such, the project allowed Quicken's websites to operate quickly and efficiently, thereby providing the public with better

service on the websites. The project was Quicken's trade secret and its intellectual property.

The indictment further alleges that beginning in May 2006, while employed by Quicken, Hummel began consulting with another company to create websites for it; in doing so, he illegally stole Quicken's trade secrets and intellectual property. Hummel then used them to help the other company build its websites. Quicken was based in Livonia, Michigan, and sold financial products to the public, including residential mortgages and loans. Quicken offered its products to the public by websites and other forms of advertising.